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JAN 28 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH : Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT : Unidentified Flying Objects
REFERENCE : Minutes of Meeting of Intelligence Advisory Committee, 4 December 1952 (IAC-44-90)

1. After consideration of the subject of Unidentified Flying Objects at the 4 December 1952 meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Committee, the following action was agreed:

"The Director of Central Intelligence will:

- a. Enlist the services of selected scientists to review and appraise the available evidence in the light of pertinent scientific theories...."

Following the delegation of this action to the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, an Advisory Panel of selected scientists was assembled. In cooperation with the Air Technical Intelligence Center, case histories of reported sightings and related material were made available for their study and consideration.

2. The Advisory Panel met initially at 0930 Wednesday, 14 January and continued to meet during working hours daily through Saturday, 17 January. A list of personnel concerned and listing of the evidence presented to the Panel are attached as Tabs A and B. A copy of the findings of the Panel, submitted in a report to the AD/ST, is attached as Tab C.

3. In summary, the Advisory Panel concluded:

- a. That the various phenomena reported through official channels as unidentified flying objects did not constitute any direct threat to national security, were not foreign in nature and were not phenomena based upon physical principles other than those being studied in current scientific research.

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- b. That dangers related to these sightings do exist, for example: in clogging of military channels of communication by irrelevant reports, in difficulty in distinguishing phenomena from possible enemy aircraft, and in the possible susceptibility of the public to mass hysteria by skillful hostile propaganda.

With respect to (b) above, the Panel believed firmly that continued official emphasis on reporting of these phenomena increases these dangers.

4. Based upon these conclusions, the Advisory Panel recommended that appropriate authority take immediate steps to strip the subject of "unidentified flying objects" of special status and to institute policies of intelligence, training, and public education designed:

- a. To reassure the public of total lack of evidence of any direct danger from the objects sighted.
- b. To train appropriate personnel so that they will avoid misidentifications.
- c. To strengthen regular channels for the evaluation of and prompt reaction to real danger.

5. This office concurs with the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Panel. Accordingly, the following recommendations are submitted:

- a. That the report of the Advisory Panel be submitted to the Intelligence Advisory Committee for information and appropriate action. (Tab D)
- b. That the DCI forward the report to the Secretary of Defense; the Director, Federal Civil Defense Administration; and the Chairman, National Security Resources Board, inviting their attention to pertinent conclusions and recommendations. (Tabs E, F, and G)

6. At the 4 December meeting of the IAC, it was agreed also that an NSCDD might be drafted to signify IAC concern in the subject, but only if the results achieved by the scientists' studies so warranted. It is the opinion of this office that the results do not so warrant. Furthermore, all apparent dangers related to this

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subject are primarily operational rather than intelligence in nature. Accordingly, it is recommended that no further consideration be given to preparation of an NSIC on this subject.

Approved: H. Marshall Chadwell
H. MARSHALL CHADWELL

Attachments: Tabs A - G

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Distribution:

- Orig and 3 - Addressee
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1 - subject flying [REDACTED] ✓ Prod. Staff
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TAB A

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SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

14 - 17 January 1953

MEMBERS

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>FIELD OF COMPETENCY</u>
Dr. H. P. Robertson (Chairman)	California Institute of Technology	Physics, weapons system
Dr. Luis W. Alvarez	University of California	Physics, radar
Dr. Lloyd V. Berkner	Associated Universities, Inc.	Geophysics
Dr. Samuel Goudsmit	Brookhaven National Laboratories	Atomic structure, statistical problems
Dr. Thornton Page	Office of Research Operations, Johns Hopkins University	Astronomy, Astrophysics

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Dr. J. Allen Hynak	Ohio State University	Astronomy
Mr. Frederick C. Durant	Arthur D. Little, Inc.	Rockets, guided missiles

INTERVIEWEES

Brig. Gen. William M. Garland	Commanding General, ATTC	Scientific and technical intelligence
Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell	Assistant Director, O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence
Mr. Ralph L. Clark	Deputy Assistant Director, O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence

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TAB A

<u>INTERVIEWEES (con't)</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>FIELD OF COMPETENCY</u>
Mr. Philip G. Strong	Chief, Operations Staff, O/SI, CIA	Scientific and technical intelligence
Mr. Stephan T. Passony	Acting Chief, Special Study Group, D/I USAF	Scientific and technical intelligence
Capt. Edward J. Ruppelt, USAF	Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch, ATIC, USAF	Scientific and technical intelligence
Mr. J. Dewey Fournet, Jr.	The Ethyl Corporation	Aero Eng.
Lt. R. S. Neasham, USN	USN Photo Interpretation Laboratory, Annapolis	Photo interpretation
Mr. Harry Woe	USN Photo Interpretation Laboratory, Annapolis	Photo interpretation

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TAB B

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**SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS**

14 - 17 January 1953

EVIDENCE PRESENTED

1. Seventy-five case histories of sightings 1951 - 1952 (selected by ATIC as those best documented).
2. ATIC Status and Progress Reports of Project GRUDGE and Project BLUE BOOK (code names for ATIC study of subject).
3. Progress Reports of Project SPORK (code name for Battelle Memorial Institute contract work supporting ATIC).
4. Summary Report of Sightings at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.
5. Report of USAF Research Center, Cambridge, Mass., Investigation of "Green Fireball" Phenomena (Project TWINKLE).
6. Outline of Investigation of U.F.O.'s Proposed by Kirtland Air Force Base (Project POUNCE).
7. Motion Picture Films of sightings at Tremonton, Utah, 2 July 1952 and Great Falls, Montana, August 1950.
8. Summary Report of 89 selected cases of sightings of various categories (Formations, Blinking Lights, Hovering, etc.).
9. Draft of manual: "How to Make a FLYOVERPT", prepared at ATIC.
10. Chart Showing Plot of Geographic Location of Unexplained Sightings in the United States during 1952.
11. Chart Showing Balloon Launching Sites in the United States.
12. Charts Showing Selected Actual Balloon Flight Paths and Relation to Reported Sightings.
13. Charts Showing Frequency of Reports of Sightings, 1948 - 1952.
14. Charts Showing Categories of Explanations of Sightings.
15. Kodachrome Transparencies of Polyethylene Film Balloons in Bright Sunlight Showing High Reflectivity.

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TAB B

16. Motion picture of seagulls in bright sunlight showing high reflectivity.
17. Intelligence Reports Relating to U.S.S.R. Interest in U. S. Sightings.
18. Samples of Official USAF Reporting Forms and Copies of Pertinent Air Force, Army and Navy Orders Relating to Subject.
19. Sample Polyethylene "Pillow" Balloon (54 inches square).
20. "Variations in Radar Coverage", JANP 101 (Manual illustrating unusual operating characteristics of Service radar).
21. Miscellaneous official letters and foreign intelligence reports dealing with subject.
22. Copies of popular published works dealing with subject (articles in periodicals, newspaper clippings and books).

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JAN 17 1953

REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC PANEL
ON
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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1. Pursuant to the request of the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence, the undersigned Panel of Scientific Consultants has met to evaluate any possible threat to national security posed by Unidentified Flying Objects ("Flying Saucers"), and to make recommendations thereon. The Panel has received the evidence as presented by cognizant intelligence agencies, primarily the Air Technical Intelligence Center, and has reviewed a selection of the best documented incidents.

2. As a result of its considerations, the Panel concludes:

a. That the evidence presented on Unidentified Flying Objects shows no indication that these phenomena constitute a direct physical threat to national security.

We firmly believe that there is no residuum of cases which indicates phenomena which are attributable to foreign artifacts capable of hostile acts, and that there is no evidence that the phenomena indicate a need for the revision of current scientific concepts.

3. The Panel further concludes:

a. That the continued emphasis on the reporting of these phenomena does, in these parlous times, result in a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic.

We cite as examples the clogging of channels of communication by irrelevant reports, the danger of being led by continued false alarms to ignore real

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indications of hostile action, and the cultivation of a morbid national psychology in which skillful hostile propaganda could induce hysterical behavior and harmful distrust of duly constituted authority.

4. In order most effectively to strengthen the national facilities for the timely recognition and the appropriate handling of true indications of hostile action, and to minimize the concomitant dangers alluded to above, the Panel recommends:

a. That the national security agencies take immediate steps to strip the Unidentified Flying Objects of the special status they have been given and the aura of mystery they have unfortunately acquired;

b. That the national security agencies institute policies on intelligence, training, and public education designed to prepare the material defenses and the morale of the country to recognize most promptly and to react most effectively to true indications of hostile intent or action.

We suggest that these aims may be achieved by an integrated program designed to reassure the public of the total lack of evidence of inimical forces behind the phenomena, to train personnel to recognize and reject false indications quickly and effectively, and to strengthen regular channels for the evaluation of and prompt reaction to true indications of hostile measures.

/s/ H. P. Robertson, Chairman
California Institute of Technology

/s/ Luis W. Alvarez
University of California

/s/ Lloyd V. Berkner
Associated Universities, Inc.

/s/ S. A. Goudamit
Brookhaven National Laboratories

/s/ Thornton Page
Johns Hopkins University

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TAB D

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IAC-D-
Date

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

UNIDENTIFIED FLAME SUBJECTS

1. Transmitted herewith for your information and appropriate action is a copy of the report of the scientific panel convened as a result of the action taken by the IAC on 4 December (IAC-D-90, paragraph 3 a) on this subject. Attached to the report are a list of personnel participating and a summary of evidence presented.

2. It is proposed to consider this report at an early meeting of the IAC and, if deemed at that time appropriate, to transmit it to the Secretary of Defense; the Director, Federal Civil Defense Administration; and the Chairman, National Security Resources Board, for their information and such action as they may feel necessary.

3. The results of the panel's studies have moved CIA to conclude that no KNOED on this subject is warranted.

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acting Secretary

Attachments

1. Panel report
2. List of personnel
3. Summary of evidence presented

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TAB 2

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DRAFT OF LETTER TO:

The Honorable
The Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am forwarding you herewith a copy of a report prepared by a panel of scientists on the subject of "unidentified flying objects." This panel was convened at (the direction of General Smith) (my direction) following the recommendation of the Intelligence Advisory Committee.

It seems to me that the conclusions and recommendations may be of interest to you, in that they point out certain potential dangers to national security which are related to the subject and suggest ways of their elimination.

Although this Agency does not consider problems arising from sightings of "flying saucers" primarily its concern, we shall be pleased to assist in any appropriate action that you deem advisable.

I am also sending copies of this report to the Administrator, FCDA and to the Chairman, NSRE.

Sincerely,

Enclosure

Director

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E

The Honorable J. J. Wadsworth
Acting Administrator, Federal Civil
Defense Administration
1930 Columbia Road, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wadsworth:

Transmitted herewith for your consideration and appropriate action is a copy of a report prepared by a panel of scientists on the subject of "unidentified flying objects." This panel of consultants was assembled by the Director of Central Intelligence following such recommendation by the Intelligence Advisory Committee on 4 December 1952.

Your attention is invited to conclusions and recommendations which point out certain potential dangers to national security which are related to the subject and suggest ways of their elimination. Although this Agency does not consider problems arising from sightings of "flying saucers" primarily its concern, we shall be pleased to assist in any appropriate action that you deem advisable.

I am also sending copies of this report to the Secretary of Defense and to the Chairman, National Security Resources Board.

Sincerely,

Director

Enclosure

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DRAFT OF LETTER, 10/1

Security Information

The Honorable Jack Dorrie
Chairman, National Security Resources Board
Room 211
Executive Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dorrie:

Transmitted herewith for your consideration and appropriate action is a copy of a report prepared by a panel of scientists on the subject of "unidentified flying objects." This panel of consultants was assembled by the Director of Central Intelligence following such recommendation by the Intelligence Advisory Committee on 4 December 1952.

Your attention is invited to conclusions and recommendations which point out certain potential dangers to national security which are related to the subject and suggest ways of their elimination. Although this Agency does not consider problems arising from sightings of "flying saucers" primarily its concern, we shall be pleased to cooperate in any appropriate action that you deem advisable.

I am also sending copies of this report to the Secretary of Defense and to the Acting Administrator, Federal Civil Defense Administration.

Sincerely,

Director

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